First Congregational United Church of Christ,

Ypsilanti, MI

"Follow Me"

No matter who you are or where you are
on life's journey, you're welcome here.

January 31, 2016 10:00 am

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

An open and affirming community
committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"Sing a Different Song"** **150 NCH** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Donna Eyster

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Donna Eyster

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Anthem** **"Solo"** Tiffany Waldron

Call to Worship (Unison) Donna Eyster

God of love, in whose name we have been consecrated for discipleship and service, encounter us in this hour, that we may grow in knowledge and actions. Disturb our contentment. Expand our horizons. Upset our priorities. Encourage us to allow change to transform us in this presence of your love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

***Hymn** **"You Have Cone Down to the Lakeshore"** **173 NCH**

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament **Jeremiah 1:4-10** Donna Eyster

Hymn **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward*

New Testament **1 Corinthians 13:1-13** Carol Hall

Sermon **"All About Me?** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?"** **539 NCH**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Traditional Version Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Breath of Life,
In whom we live and move and have our being,
Your presence fills all of Creation.
May justice and mercy reign,
In our lives and in our world.
Today may our bellies be full,
Our hearts warm,
And our fellowship open.
May we reconcile with the people we've hurt,
Just as we reconcile with the people who've hurt us.
Lead us not into a time of trial,
But deliver us from evil.
For wherever grace and community abide,
There you are with us;
We are not alone.
Blessed be.

– by Chance Hunter (Used under Creative Commons license)
http://www.timesandseasons.net/2011/the-lords-prayer-an-alternate-version

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Donna Eyster

God has called this church to be an agent of change. With prophetic voice and courageous work, we are to influence the world. Such a task requires our best; our continued growth in faith, our commitment to love, our giving of self. The resources we dedicate here are a symbolized in how we live our lives today and every day. Amen.

– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

Offertory Steve McGhee

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication *(Unison) Donna Eyster

With awe and wonder, O God, we dare to enlist all our efforts toward the realization of your realm. Where there is injustice, we would champion those who are oppressed and understood. When some feel rejected, we reach out to accept them in Christ's name. May these offerings teach and heal as demonstrated by your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen."

– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"Take Off Your Shoes"** **79 ES**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One: Go forth with enough faith to move mountains.
Reach out with a love that transforms the world.
Many: Love is patient and kind, not jealous or boastful
Love rejoices in all that is right, not in wrong.
One: Let the Scripture be fulfilled by your faithfulness.
Let the Word take flesh in all you do..
Many: Love bears, believes, hopes and endures.
We participate in the love of God that never ends.
One: God promises to be our rock and our refuge.
God is ever with us to deliver us.
Many: God's Word will be in our mouths.
God's love will warm our spirits.
The Holy Spirit will encourage the work of our minds and our hands.
Jesus showed us what we need to do.
Amen. – **Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler**

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website:* *www.ypsiucc.com

Open and Affirming Covenant of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti.

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions.
All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe and nurturing community of faith.
We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Volunteers	Today: Jan 31st	Next Sunday: Feb 7th
Usher	Wayne Burling	Marty Kleino
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Donna Eyster	Tad Wysor
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Wayne Burling
Acolyte	Hunter Turner	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Patty Sherwood	Ann Marie N-T
Sunday School	Anne Marie N-T	Melanie Harner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO MEETING: February 7, 2016, immediately following the worship service, we will hold the **Annual Meeting** of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Old business, information, reports and new business will be brought before the Congregation at that time.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Council meeting will be held tomorrow February 1, 2016 at 4:45 pm. All are welcome.
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PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

NEW ADDRESS: Lorraine Sayles' new address; Orchard Hills Manor, 2139 Georgetown Blvd., Ann Arbor, 48105. Her phone number is the same as always (734) 483-3849.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address'*: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expires May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*****,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: A coalition of Open and Affirming United Church of Christ churches in Michigan. For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.

See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.